

Hi,

Thanks for your kind attention on the issue. The procedure of my normal routines is just open some .dbf files, edit something and save them back to their original format for my colleagues' usage. All the processes are worked quite smoothly on Microsoft Excel.

Anyway, on the OpenOffice side. The output files have no damage on its structure except two kinds of abnormally happening.

1. The field name that contain any 0 will be omitted, such as the field name DIFF0503 will be save as DIFF_5_3 shown in the sample pictures. This may be a crucial defect that need to be fixed on later version of OpenOffice. (This issue was reported as FIXED state on the web but actually not true.)
2. The contents of numeric field will be set to left align, and also varying the field width to its length of numeric content.

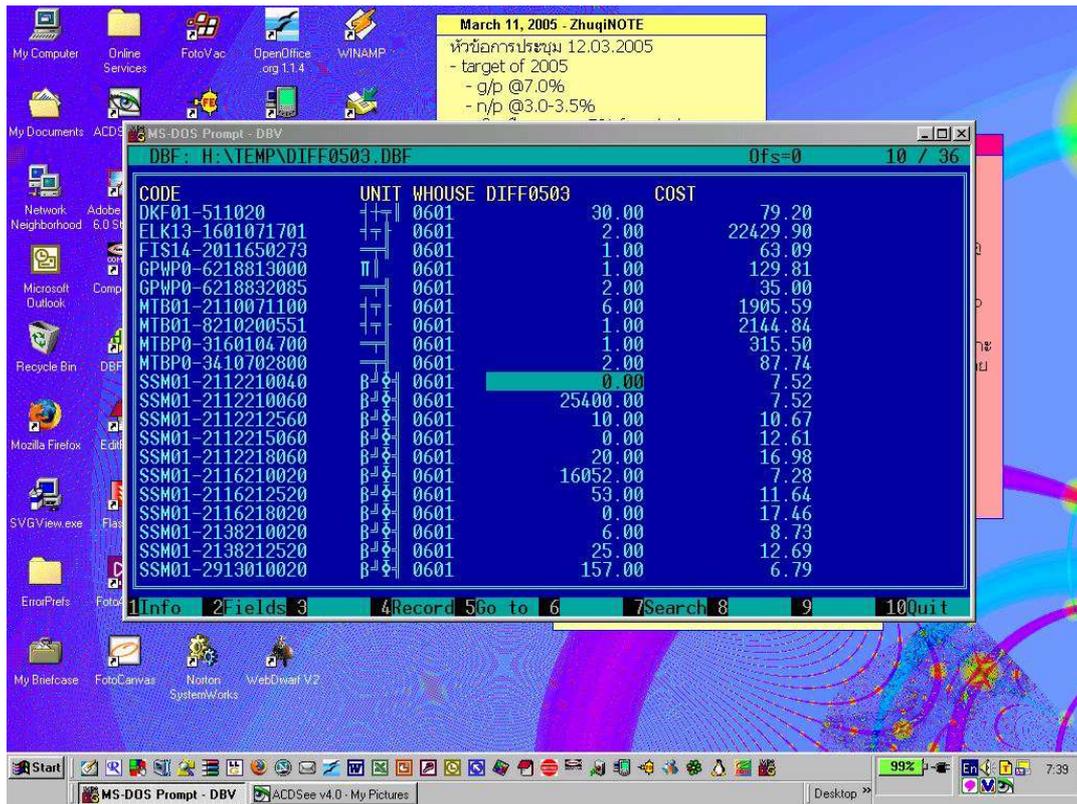
The 2nd defects will not be seen if someone use the graphic based application to open the files, but it is quite annoying on text mode screen or any text based application which some of my colleagues use on viewing the contents only.

However, after a trying to edit the field content, the field width will recover to its normal displaying as the original one. But, only field by field and record by record only, which will be a very terrible practice if we would accept that effect as our normal usage :-)

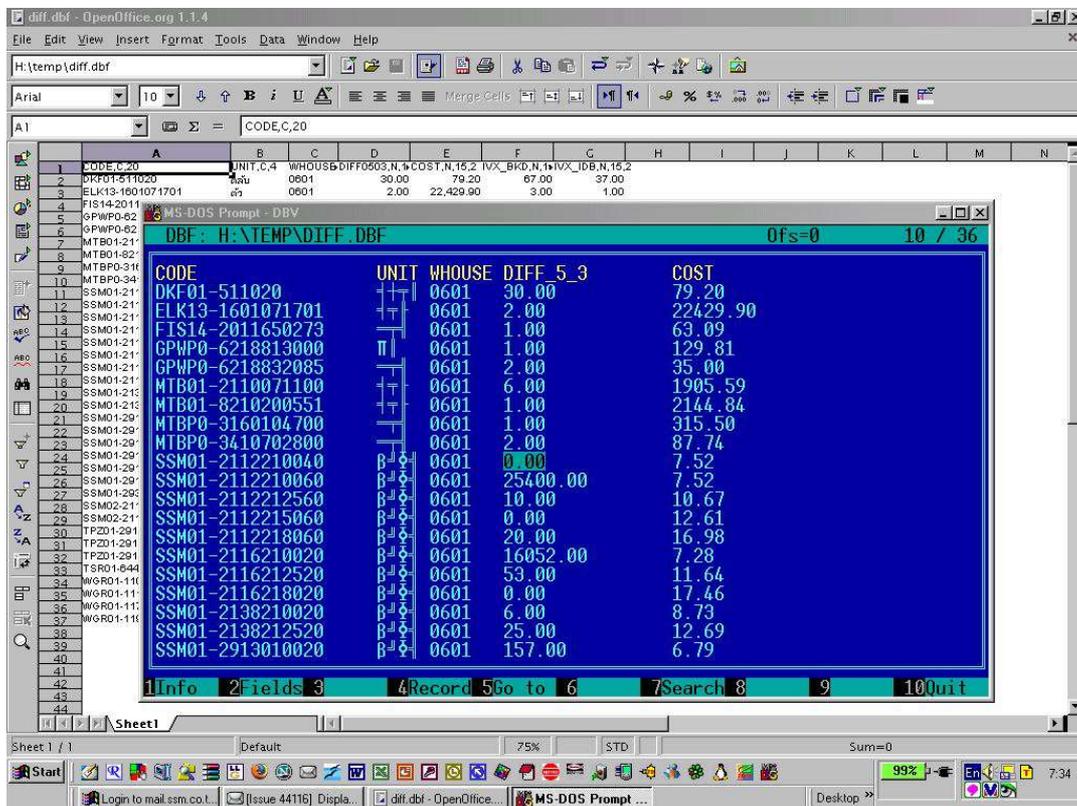
The way that OpenOffice handling on creating .dbf file is very great. The structure of the will-be output file are specified clearly from start. Not the same as MS-Excel that use the format of the first record to identify the properties of all fields. However, if save as CSV or DIF format, the character field contained any leading of 0 will be discarded. (such as the field WHOUSE in the sample, we would get the contents as "601" instead of "0601" if save as CSV or DIF format.)

I'm not sure whether the details I mentioned here are clear enough, as of my terrible English usage on communication. But I'm thankfully appreciated with the attention received from you on the issue.

Best Regards,
Viruch H.



The original file outlook from viewer



Result from the "Save as" command